



# Domestic Violence National, Alaska and Anchorage Facts October 1, 2003

## National Facts

According to the National Violence Against Women Survey, approximately 1.9 million women are physically assaulted each year in the United States.

In the United States, violence against women is primarily partner violence: 76% of the women who were raped and/or physically assaulted since age 18 were assaulted by current or former husband, cohabiting partner, or date.<sup>1</sup>

According to the National Violence Against Women Survey, women are more likely than men to be injured during an assault: 39% of women who were physically assaulted since age 18 were injured during their most recent physical assault.<sup>1</sup>

According to the National Violence Against Women Survey, approximately 1 million women are stalked annually in the United States.<sup>1</sup>

Based on a national survey African-American and American Indian/Alaska Native women and men reported higher rates of intimate partner violence than women and men from other backgrounds.<sup>1</sup>

## Alaska and Anchorage Facts

According to the Winter 2003 Homeless Service Provider's Survey conducted in Anchorage, 24% of the homeless women surveyed reported they were victims of violence.<sup>2</sup>

In FY2003, the Alaska Women's Resource Center served 3,906 victims of domestic violence. This is a 23% increase from FY2002, where 3,172 victims were served.<sup>3</sup>

In FY2002/2003, Abused Women's Aid In Crisis (AWAIC), a 52-bed shelter for victims of domestic violence, provided 16,400 shelter safe nights to victims of domestic violence. This is a 6% increase over FY2001/2002, where a total of 15,530 shelter safe nights were provided.<sup>4</sup>

In FY02/03, children accounted for 45% of total persons served at Abused Women's Aid In Crisis (AWAIC). This means that on any given night, almost half of the victims in the shelter are children.<sup>4</sup>

According to a ten-year study of domestic violence cases reported to the Anchorage Police Department, Alaska Native/American Indians represented 24% of victims and Blacks represented 13% of victims; and, respectively comprise 8% and 7% of the Anchorage population.<sup>5</sup>

1. National Institute of Justice, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Prevalence, Incidence, and Consequences of Violence Against Women: Findings From The National Violence Against Women Survey*, U.S. Department of Justice, November 2000.
2. Alaska Housing Finance Corporation, July Homeless Service Providers' Survey, January 2003, James Wiedle, Research Analyst (907) 330-8235.
3. Information provided by Alaska Women's Resource Center, Mary Dyer, Executive Director, Anchorage, Alaska, September, 2003 (907) 276-0528.
4. Information provided by Abused Women's Aid In Crisis, Suzi Pearson, 279-9581 and produced by Municipal Department of Health and Human Services, Social Services Division, SAFE City Program (907) 343-6533.
5. *Municipality of Anchorage, Analysis of Police Action and Characteristics of Reported Domestic Violence in Anchorage, Alaska Ten Year Study, 1989 – 1998*, Municipal Department of Health and Human Services, Social Services Division, SAFE City Program, printed October 30, 2000.

